SGT. H.L. BANK, [illegible]
CO. M, 167 INF, APO 31,
C/O P.M, S.F, CALIF.

U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE
15 OCT 1945
31

U.S. POSTAGE
6¢
BEAR MAIL

AIRMAIL

MAJ. BERT BANK
~~VALLEY FORGE GEN. HOSP.~~
~~PHOENIXVILLE, PENNA.~~
U.S.A.

Tuscaloosa Alabama 1907 45 12

23 August 1945

Dear Bert:

Well, here I sit at my new job, doing nothing. I am a clerk with 2 other boys in the Cargo control office. As there are not many boats coming in these days, there is not much to do. I just did a little, very little, typing today, and that is all. I just sit around and write letters or read or shoot the bull all day long. S/Sgt Garvis Barnett, who used to work with Katz in Tuscaloosa, is hanging around here today. He is Col. Hardenburg's boy, and does a lot of nothing. He is well taken care of by the Colonel, who is G-3 now of the Division.

I guess the mail situation up here will be nil, as the outfit is moving a long way off, and it will take a long time for the mail to be sent to me. But I will keep on writing. Lt. Bill Seale, who used to live across the street from us, is down here at the Port Company. The boy that got me this job is one of the best and longest friends I have had in the Army. He and I used to be clerks together since 1941. He got a job up here, and found that this outfit needed another clerk, and got me put on an order from Division, without my even knowing. I saw him a couple of weeks ago when I came up here to Bugo for a load of pineapples, and told him that I wanted to get a job with him. He is a Croatian boy, from Pittsburgh, and a hellava nice fellow. We have certainly had some swell times together since we got together in 1941.

Yesterday's news said that MacArthur will arrive in Tokyo on August 26th, and the armistice will be signed right after that. I think that Mac is just fooling around, and should get on the ball, and get this thing signed and sealed. Right?

Up here I sleep in a two man tent with a boy from Tennessee, who drives a truck and keeps it all of the time. I have a shelf over my bed, to keep the junk I have acquired. We have electric lights, and a Filipino washwoman, and a boy to clean my tent up everymorning. George, the monkey, likes his new home and assignment, but felt slighted when they did n't put his name, rank, and ASN on a special order transferring him up here with me. So I consoled him, and told him that I would fix it up with the General. He now feels better. We eat with the AAA Battalion, and they sure dod feed swell. They had a show last night, but I had seen it, so just shot bull and ate PX supplies with Nat. Nat Reinfeld is clerk for the Divisions investigating officer, and fools around the PX on his off-time, so gets plenty of supplies. I bought me a beautiful bracelet and Eversharp pen the other day. There is a professional engraver here in the WM, so He is putting my name on the front, and Mother & Dad on the back, because they bought it for me.

How long do you think you will be there at Avon. It was an interesting article in July Reader's Digest about that school. You ought to read it. It is hard to believe some of the things that they do for the boys there. I got kickout of your letter describing some

of the antics of the blind boys. It really makes me feel bad to hear of the condition of the fellows, but thankful that they feel that they are not a burden on society, and have not lost their spirit and hopes for a bright future. It really takes more guts to feel like they do, than it takes to walk into a Jap machinegun. Right?

This Sergeant I work with was in the AirCorps Administration for 3 years, and last fall got transferred to the Infantry. It is sure a big letdown, isn't it? There are a lot of them over here now.

This morning I rode a LCVP out to a ship in the harbor to get some information. Everything that goes in and out of this harbor passes over our desk, and when the ships come in, there is a lot of work to do. I have a lot to learn about this kind of work. During my 2½ years of company clerking I never handled anything of this sort.

I am expecting the points to be lowered to 75 any day now, and hope to be walking down Broad Street by Xmas, if not before that.

Be good and write soon.

Chink

P.S. NOTICE NEW ADDRESS!

A.

OCT. 14/45

P.S.S. THESE TWO LETTERS CAME BACK. WE'RE LOADING ON THE BOATS OCT. 20. WRITE ME AT HOME NEXT! I HAVE WOOLS AND AM READY TO MOVE OUT. JUST ALABAMA WON THE 3RD STRAIGHT GAME, BEATING HOWARD ABOUT 40-0.

Chink

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Sargent Harold Bank
to Major Bert Bank
August 23, 1945